



Brown County Rural Electrical Association

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A Touchstone Energy™ Partner



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Dear Commissioner Kelley and Chair Sieben:

Brown County REA is submitting this letter in response to your March 24, 2020 memorandum regarding utility measures in response to the Covid-19 emergency.

We at Brown County REA share your concern for our fellow Minnesotans during this difficult time, and we commend the Governor for his decisive action to protect the state from this unseen but deadly threat. Importantly, as a nonprofit provider of essential electric service, we will continue to put the needs and welfare of our member owners first during this emergency.

Regarding the three commitments requested in your letter, we at Brown County REA intend to do all we can to continue providing uninterrupted electric service to our member owners during this emergency. Specifically and consistent with the Cold Weather Rule protections in Minnesota Statutes, Section 216B.097, Brown County REA intends at a minimum to: (1) refrain from residential customer disconnections, and to reconnect any previously disconnected residential customers as part of a reasonable payment plan that reflects the financial circumstances of the customer and the hardships caused by the pandemic; (2) waive late fees that any residential or small business customer incurs because of economic circumstances related to the coronavirus pandemic; and (3) arrange payment plans for customers requesting help during this time based on the financial resources and circumstances of the customer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Heidemann". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Michael Heidemann
CEO
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